

MTS-3231US

J. W. Wichee
6.4.01
#2
PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: K. Yamauchi et al. : Art Unit:
Serial No.: To Be Assigned : Examiner:
Filed: Herewith :
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

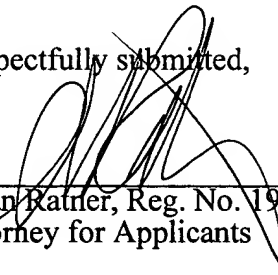
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

This information disclosure statement is being filed with the filing of the above-referenced application. No fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,



Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717
Attorney for Applicants

Encl.: PTO Form 1449,
Copy of (6) References

Dated: March 30, 2001

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Kathleen Libby

11036 U.S. PTO

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Examiner	Date Considered
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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.